

**Weekly Weather  
Crop Report**

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone:601-965-4575  
Facsimile:601-965-5622  
[www.nass.usda.gov/ms/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/)  
[nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/](mailto:nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/)

Week Ending April 16, 2006

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, April 16, 2006**. Dry conditions during the week allowed fieldwork and planting activities to rapidly continue, but are causing concern for farmers across the state. Emergence rates are good thus far, but additional rain will be crucial to further development. Hay supplies are dwindling and grass growth is beginning to feel the pressure from the lack of rain. Soil moisture was rated 17 percent very short, 45 percent short, 34 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus.

| Progress In Percentages |           |           |           |      |          | Conditions in Percentages |      |      |      |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Item                    | Event     | This Week | Last Week | 2005 | 5-Yr Avg | Very Poor                 | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Corn                    | Planted   | 92        | 79        | 61   | 77       | 0                         | 0    | 33   | 58   | 9         |
|                         | Emerged   | 72        | 53        | 47   | 57       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Cotton                  | Planted   | 11        | 1         | --   | 3        | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Rice                    | Planted   | 44        | 6         | 10   | 18       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
|                         | Emerged   | 7         | --        | 3    | 6        |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Sorghum                 | Planted   | 29        | 9         | 8    | 17       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
|                         | Emerged   | 6         | --        | --   | 7        |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Soybeans                | Planted   | 61        | 34        | 14   | 23       | 1                         | 0    | 23   | 61   | 15        |
|                         | Emerged   | 34        | 10        | 7    | 12       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Wheat                   | Jointing  | 98        | 86        | 95   | 90       | 1                         | 0    | 38   | 40   | 21        |
|                         | Heading   | 61        | 27        | 34   | 34       |                           |      |      |      |           |
| Hay (Cool Season)       | Harvested | 5         | 2         | 4    | 11       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Watermelons             | Planted   | 48        | 42        | 56   | 58       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Blueberries             |           |           |           |      |          | 0                         | 0    | 7    | 66   | 27        |
| Cattle                  |           |           |           |      |          | 2                         | 15   | 38   | 32   | 13        |
| Pasture                 |           |           |           |      |          | 3                         | 21   | 39   | 33   | 4         |

**County Agent Comments**

“We had some good days to plant corn and prepare fields for planting cotton and soybeans.”  
— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Excellent weather allowed soybean and rice farmers to make unusually good progress with their planting activities. Most of those farmers will finish planting this week. Many cotton farmers have planted some cotton and most of the other cotton fields have been worked.”  
— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Following two weeks of optimal planting conditions, soil moisture conditions are becoming short. Rain by the end of the upcoming week will be needed for emergence of most crops.”  
— Robert Martin, Sharkey

“Planting has progressed well since it became dry enough to get in the field after last Friday’s storms. Crops are emerging and some replanting has and will occur due to hail damage in the county.”  
— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Almost all planting has stopped due to a lack of moisture.”  
— Gary Taylor, Yazoo

“Slow, soaking rains would be welcomed. Corn is in and soybean planting is moving forward.”  
— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“It's so dry that a farmer told me he could see a field mouse crossing the field at 200 yards. We really need rain. Ryegrass has pretty much cut out. There won't be much ryegrass hay this year. Cover crops on cotton and peanut land have had burndown herbicide applied.”  
— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Planting is going well. Some rice is being flushed. Crops are coming up good with the warm weather we are having.”  
— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Temperatures are higher than normal for April. Moisture is short while growth in spring pastures begins to decline. Cool-season grasses appear to be moving into a reproductive status early as a result of the dry conditions. Fly populations are already building in the beef herds throughout the northern Mississippi counties.”  
— Mike Howell, Lee

“We will need rain to continue planting through this week. Some fields that have been planted will not be able to emerge fully without rain.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Dry weather led to good field progress for the week.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“It is too dry to do anything in the field. Pasture grasses are drought stressed. Cattlemen are concerned with the shortage of grass and hay.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

Weather Summary from April 10, 2006 to April 16, 2006 for Mississippi

| District/Station | Air Temperature |     |     |      |     | Precipitation |       |           |            | 4 Inch Soil Temperature |     |     | Avg Pan Evap |
|------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
|                  | Max             | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week      | DFN   | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max                     | Min | Avg |              |
| 1. Upper Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Cleveland        | 86              | 43  | 66  | 61   | +5  | 0.00          | -1.25 | 0         | 4.88       |                         |     |     |              |
| Lambert          | 87              | 41  | 66  |      |     | 0.00          | -1.12 | 0         | 2.36       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tunica           |                 |     |     | 61   |     | 0.00          | -1.37 | 0         | 2.85       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 87              | 41  | 66  | 62   | +4  | 0.00          | -1.26 | 0         | 4.88       |                         |     |     |              |
| 2. North-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Calhoun City     | 83              | 35  | 65  | 61   | +4  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 3.74       |                         |     |     |              |
| Hickory Flat     | 87              | 34  | 63  | 59   | +4  | 0.00          | -1.26 | 0         | 4.89       |                         |     |     |              |
| Independence     | 83              | 35  | 65  | 59   | +6  | 0.00          | -1.12 | 0         | 4.45       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oxford           | 86              | 35  | 66  | 59   | +7  | 0.00          | -1.19 | 0         | 4.68       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 87              | 34  | 66  | 60   | +6  | 0.00          | -1.26 | 0         | 4.21       |                         |     |     |              |
| 3. Northeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Booneville       | 83              | 42  | 66  | 59   | +7  | 0.00          | -1.19 | 0         | 5.06       |                         |     |     |              |
| Iuka             | 82              | 29  | 60  | 57   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.18 | 0         | 4.25       |                         |     |     |              |
| Ripley           | 85              | 34  | 64  | 58   | +6  | 0.00          | -1.29 | 0         | 5.00       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tupelo           | 86              | 41  | 68  |      |     | 0.00          |       | 0         | 4.46       |                         |     |     |              |
| Verona           |                 |     |     | 60   |     | 0.00          | -1.23 | 0         | 5.19       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 86              | 29  | 64  | 60   | +4  | 0.00          | -1.21 | 0         | 4.57       |                         |     |     |              |
| 4. Lower Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Moorhead         | 85              | 44  | 69  | 63   | +6  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 4.05       |                         |     |     |              |
| Rolling Fork     | 89              | 41  | 69  | 63   | +6  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 3.63       |                         |     |     |              |
| Stoneville       | 86              | 45  | 70  | 63   | +7  | 0.00          | -1.26 | 0         | 6.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| Yazoo City       | 85              | 40  | 66  | 64   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.40 | 0         | 3.02       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 89              | 40  | 69  | 64   | +5  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 4.87       |                         |     |     |              |
| 5. Central       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Canton           | 85              | 37  | 65  | 63   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 0.34       |                         |     |     |              |
| Carthage         | 84              | 38  | 62  | 62   | 0   | 0.00          | -1.37 | 0         | 2.80       |                         |     |     |              |
| Eupora           |                 |     |     | 60   |     | 0.00          | -1.30 | 0         | 2.22       |                         |     |     |              |
| Lexington        | 84              | 54  | 69  | 61   | +8  | 0.00          | -1.31 | 0         | 0.00       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 85              | 37  | 65  | 62   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.38 | 0         |            |                         |     |     |              |
| 6. East-Central  |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Aberdeen         | 85              | 39  | 66  | 61   | +5  | 0.00          | -1.25 | 0         | 3.42       |                         |     |     |              |
| Houston          | 84              | 34  | 64  | 59   | +5  | 0.00          | -1.24 | 0         | 3.70       |                         |     |     |              |
| Philadelphia     |                 |     |     | 62   |     | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 3.42       |                         |     |     |              |
| State University | 85              | 47  | 70  | 61   | +9  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 3.69       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 85              | 34  | 65  | 62   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 3.42       |                         |     |     |              |
| 7. Southwest     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Crystal Springs  | 86              | 42  | 67  | 64   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.44 | 0         | 2.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| Natchez          | 83              | 39  | 64  | 65   | -1  | 0.00          | -1.43 | 0         | 2.84       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oakley           | 86              | 35  | 64  | 63   | +1  | 0.00          | -1.42 | 0         | 2.90       |                         |     |     |              |
| Vicksburg        | 84              | 41  | 68  |      |     | 0.00          |       | 0         | 4.36       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 86              | 35  | 66  | 64   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.40 | 0         | 3.23       |                         |     |     |              |
| 8. South-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Collins          | 85              | 42  | 66  | 63   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.27 | 0         | 1.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| Columbia         | 86              | 43  | 67  | 64   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.40 | 0         | 2.69       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tylertown        | 86              | 43  | 66  | 65   | +1  | 0.00          | -1.33 | 0         | 1.99       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 86              | 42  | 66  | 64   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.39 | 0         | 2.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| 9. Southeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Beaumont         |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           | 0.60       |                         |     |     |              |
| Hattiesburg      | 86              | 46  | 67  | 65   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.30 | 0         | 1.20       |                         |     |     |              |
| Laurel           | 86              | 43  | 67  | 63   | +4  | 0.00          | -1.19 | 0         | 2.49       |                         |     |     |              |
| Newton           | 86              | 37  | 64  | 61   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.44 | 0         | 4.59       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 86              | 37  | 66  | 63   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.26 | 0         | 2.49       |                         |     |     |              |
| 10.Coastal       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Gulfport         | 82              | 50  | 69  | 67   | +2  | 0.00          | -1.15 | 0         | 0.06       |                         |     |     |              |
| Pascagoula 3NE   |                 |     |     | 64   |     | 0.00          | -1.01 | 0         | 0.05       |                         |     |     |              |
| Picayune         |                 |     |     | 65   |     | 0.00          | -1.20 | 0         | 0.10       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 82              | 50  |     | 66   |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| State            | 89              | 29  | 66  | 63   | +3  | 0.00          | -1.32 | 0         | 3.58       |                         |     |     |              |

DFN = Departure from Normal.